

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel Claims 2, 11-12, 14-15, 19 and 21-35 without prejudice. Please accept amended Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 10, 13, 16-18 and 20 and new Claim 36 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium embodying a program of instructions executable by a processor to perform a method for ~~deploying computer infrastructure, comprising integrating computer-readable code into a computing system, wherein the code in combination with the computing system is capable of performing~~ deriving knowledge from parameters and data, the method comprising:

~~identifying inferencing aspects for a program; and~~
~~providing the identified inferencing aspects as inferencing components, wherein the inferencing components are externalizable~~

evaluating the data of an externalized inferencing component in the presence of the parameters passed by a trigger point within the program of instructions to perform an inference, wherein the externalized inferencing component is in communication with the program of instructions, wherein the inference is a derivation of the knowledge; and

outputting the knowledge derived by the inference to the program of instructions.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 1, wherein the data is stored in persistent memory.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~identified inferencing~~

~~aspects~~ externalized inferencing component include at least one of a trigger point, a short term fact, an inference rule, an inference engine, a static variable mapping, a sensor, an effector, a long term fact, and a conclusion.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing component include at least one of a trigger point component, a short term fact component, an inference rule set component, an inference engine component, a static mapping component, a sensor component, an effector component, a long term fact component, and a conclusion component.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~each of the~~ externalized inferencing component is one of a consumer of data provided by an inferencing component, a supplier of data provided by an inferencing component, and a combination thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of associating ~~at least one the trigger point inferencing component~~ with ~~at least one application the~~ program of instructions.

8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein trigger points operate either synchronously or asynchronously.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of the inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing component is a master inferencing component that employs

at least one other ~~inferencing component~~ externalized inferencing component.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of the inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing component employs an inferencing engine.

11-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~at least one of the inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing component is composed of at least one inferencing subcomponent.

14-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein at least one of the inferencing components is shared~~ further comprising sharing the externalized inferencing component by reference with at least one other ~~inferencing component~~ externalized inferencing component.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 1, wherein ~~at least one of the algorithms~~ the externalized inferencing component ~~perform at least one of inferencing component creation, inferencing component retrieval, inferencing component update, and inferencing component deletion~~ performs method steps to one of create, update and delete another externalized inferencing component.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 1, wherein ~~at least one of the algorithms~~
an algorithm of the externalized inferencing component for performing the evaluation is shared
by a plurality of ~~inferencing components~~ externalized inferencing components.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing wherein
~~the providing step~~ uses an inference component management facility to administer ~~inferencing~~
~~components~~ externalized inferencing components, the administration including operations to
create, retrieve, update, and delete.

21-35. (Cancelled)

36. (New) A system for executing a program of instructions in communication with an
externalized inference component comprising:

a memory device storing data, the program of instructions and the externalized inference
component;

a processor for receiving the data and executing the plurality of instructions and the
externalized inference component to perform a method for deriving knowledge from the data
comprising:

evaluating the data of an externalized inferencing component in the presence of
the parameters passed by a trigger point within the program of instructions to perform an
inference, wherein the externalized inferencing component is in communication with the

program of instructions, wherein the inference is a derivation of the knowledge; and
outputting the knowledge derived by the inference to the program of instructions.